



Nebraska Weather and Crops

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

Nebraska Field Office

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Access our reports via the Internet: www.usda.gov/nass/

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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending September 25, 2005, record high temperatures and limited rainfall pushed crops toward maturity and accelerated drydown, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Producer activities included harvesting fall crops, seeding wheat, and weaning calves.

Weather Summary: Temperatures ranged from 2 to 12 degrees above normal with a few highs reaching one hundred degrees. Significant amounts of rain fell across the north central and northeast portions of the state, but the rest of the state received little or no precipitation. Precipitation since April 1 continued at or above normal for only half of the eight districts.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending September 25, 2005

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Topsoil				
Very Short	15	13	10	25
Short	43	42	26	31
Adequate	41	43	62	42
Surplus	1	2	2	2
Subsoil				
Very Short	25	24	43	47
Short	34	35	32	31
Adequate	41	41	25	22
Surplus	0	0	0	0
Days Suitable	6.6	6.8	4.2	5.4

Field Crops Report: Corn conditions rated 5 percent very poor, 8 poor, 22 fair, 45 good, and 20 excellent. Irrigated fields rated 81 percent good or excellent while dryland fields rated 39. Seventy-two percent of the crop had reached maturity, ahead of 48 last year and 71 for the average. Corn harvested increased to 10 percent, ahead of last year at 7 but behind the average at 14.

Ninety-two percent of the soybean crop had dropped leaves, ahead of 79 last year and 77 for the average. Harvest progressed to 19 percent, ahead of 15 last year and 12 average. Conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 10 poor, 29 fair, 42 good, and 15 excellent. This is in line with last year and better than average.

Sorghum conditions rated 4 percent very poor, 10 poor, 26 fair, 46 good, and 14 excellent, better than last year and average. Sorghum coloring was at 99 percent, ahead of last year at 91 and average at 94. Sixty-five percent of the crop had reached maturity, ahead of 36 last year and 60 for the average. Sorghum harvest progressed to 5 percent, ahead of last year at 3 but behind the average at 16.

Wheat seeded was at 69 percent, ahead of last year at 65 and average at 68. Thirty-four percent of the wheat crop had emerged, in line with 35 last year and 33 for the average.

Dry Bean conditions rated 6 percent poor, 27 fair, 53 good, and 14 excellent. Ninety-four percent of the dry bean crop had dropped leaves, ahead of 61 last year and 80 for the average. Forty-nine percent had been harvested, ahead of 16 last year and the average at 48.

Proso millet harvest continued at 72 percent, ahead of last year at 39 and the average at 63.

Alfalfa conditions rated 8 percent very poor, 16 poor, 35 fair, 34 good, and 7 excellent. Fourth cutting was 72 percent harvested, ahead of 52 last year and 63 for the average.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending September 25, 2005

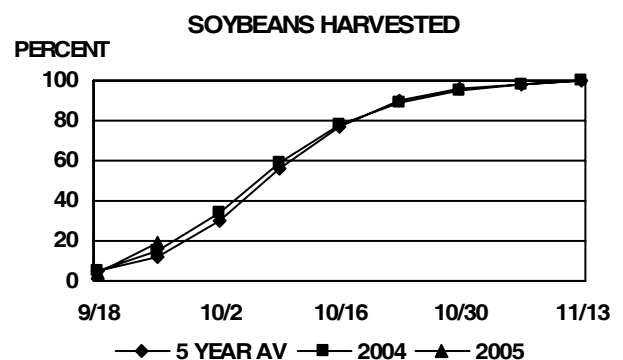
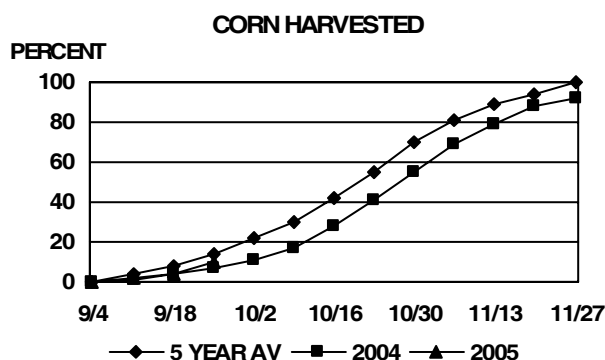
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Alfalfa 4 th Cutting	72	58	52	63
Corn Mature	72	45	48	71
Corn Harvested	10	4	7	14
Sorghum Coloring	99	95	91	94
Sorghum Mature	65	29	36	60
Sorghum Harvested	5	1	3	16
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	92	62	79	77
Soybeans Harvested	19	4	15	12
Wheat Seeded	69	51	65	68
Wheat Emerged	34	14	35	33

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending September 25, 2005

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Alfalfa	8	16	35	34	7
Corn	5	8	22	45	20
Dry Beans	0	6	27	53	14
Sorghum	4	10	26	46	14
Soybeans	4	10	29	42	15

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 8 percent very poor, 22 poor, 36 fair, 31 good, and 3 excellent. Conditions continue to be better than last year and average.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm. For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2005.htm>



Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.16	1.84	1.76	.12	.21	.09	.03	.00
Total since April 1	15.94	21.74	21.32	18.84	17.90	15.16	16.30	19.45
Normal since April 1	12.83	16.29	18.92	17.95	20.55	15.35	17.75	21.55
Total as % of normal	125%	133%	113%	104%	87%	99%	92%	90%

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	92	43	60	+3	80	2361	2556
	Scottsbluff	89	36	60	+2	85	2516	2549
	Sidney	93	41	62	+4	91	2404	2629
NC	Ainsworth	92	48	64	+4	95	2754	2888
	Arthur	95	42	63	+3	92	2533	2793
	O'Neill	97	47	66	+6	106	2848	2934
NE	Concord	93	46	67	+5	114	2932	3049
	Elgin	94	45	67	+6	112	2897	2994
	West Point	97	45	67	+5	116	3051	3164
C	Grand Island	96	46	69	+9	129	3097	2955
	Lexington	96	52	69	+8	119	3074	2897
	Ord	95	42	66	+6	113	2933	2933
EC	Lincoln	100	52	73	+10	147	3461	3256
	Central City	98	41	69	+7	125	3069	3006
	Mead	100	45	70	+7	126	3193	3235
SW	Champion	98	42	65	+5	108	2706	2819
	North Platte	99	47	67	+6	108	2847	2855
	Curtis	97	47	67	+7	110	2911	2861
SC	Smithfield	94	50	68	+8	119	2936	2906
	Minden	96	50	70	+9	127	3070	2923
	Red Cloud	102	50	73	+11	146	3274	2986
SE	Beatrice	100	50	73	+10	147	3294	3256
	Clay Center	99	51	71	+10	133	3114	2984
	Nemaha	97	56	75	+12	160	3495	3271

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center and Nebraska State Climate Office